# COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ISSUES MEETING MINUTES OF May 21, 2007

**TIME:** The meeting convened at 7:37 P.M.

PRESENT: Chair Lord-Hausman, Commissioners Berger, Fort, Hakanson and Kirola

ABSENT/EXCUSED: Vice-Chair Moore, Commissioners Cooney, Longley-Cook and Bunker

MINUTES: The minutes of April 21, 2007 were approved with the following correction: Commissioner Berger will be attending the June Concert instead of Commissioner Longley-Cook who will be out of town.

**WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:** None.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

# 1. ADA/Commission on Disability Internet Link: (Chair Lord-Hausman/Secretary Akil)

Chair Lord-Hausman and Secretary Akil distributed sample handouts of other public agencies websites with accessibility links. The Board was requested to review the handouts and provide comments and/or suggestions on what they would like to include on the current Commission City web-page. Commission Berger suggested that some of the information be available in printed formats with copies located at various organizations within the City such as the library or Mastick Senior Center. She also indicated that a resource guide of all key services and organizations be made available as well. Chair Lord-Hausman indicated that she would talk to Melissa Jones (SSHRB Board Secretary) in the Development Services Department concerning the type of booklet they disseminate to the public. Commissioner Fort also suggested that copies be available in an audio format. The Board agreed to continue the item to the next meeting.

# 2. Changing the Start Time of Board Meetings: (Chair Lord-Hausman/Secretary Akil)

Board Secretary Akil distributed handouts of the Commission's Bylaws and reviewed Section V. "Meetings," which specifies the required meeting schedule and time. Secretary Akil also acknowledged that the current start time of 7:30 PM requires that some of the members leave before the meeting is over due to personal time constraints. Secretary Akil suggested the meeting be moved to an earlier start time of 6:30 PM. Chair Lord-Hausman informed the Board that this issue has come up in the past and agreed to bring the matter back to the Board for consideration due to the lateness of the meeting and transportation or schedule constraints when the meeting is adjourned at a later hour. Commissioner Berger stated that Commissioner Bunker could not attend meetings before 7:30 PM due his attendant's availability to assist him

(Commissioner Bunker was absent). Commissioner Hakanson stated that she preferred the meetings start earlier and that 6:30 P.M. works for her. Commissioner Berger stated that a start time of 6:30 P.M. is acceptable, but not any earlier. Commissioner Fort and Kirola and Chair Lord-Hausman indicated that their schedule is flexible. Board Secretary Akil indicated that she would contact Vice-Chair Moore and Commissioner Bunker for their preference. (Board Secretary Akil contacted Vice-Chair Moore regarding the proposed time change via telephone on June 7, 2007 who confirmed that she fully supports starting the meeting earlier and the proposed 6:30 P.M. start time works for her). The Board agreed to continue the item to the next meeting.

## 3. Brown Act Training: (Secretary Akil):

Board Secretary Akil requested that the Commission was due for a formal Brown Act Training, following the appointments of the new members in June. Commissioner Kirola expressed some concern as to the restrictions of communication that would be placed upon the Commissioners from the training. Secretary Akil responded that the purpose of the training was not to eliminate communication between the Commissioners or any other personal matter, but rather is a necessary training that all City of Alameda Committees and Commissions must undergo to ensure compliance with the Brown Act. The Commissioners agreed and set July 23, 2007 as the training date, which will be conducted by the City Attorney.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

### 1. Commissioner Duties: (Chair Lord-Hausman)

Chair Lord-Hausman informed the Commissioners that Secretary Akil is in the midst of updating the City's ADA Transition Plan in her role as ADA Coordinator. Secretary Akil stated that the Commission would see a draft copy of the updated Plan prior to Council approval. The Item will be continued on the agenda for future discussion.

## 2. Crab Cove Concerts (Chair Lord-Hausman)

Chair Lord-Hausman reiterated the need for staffing and participation from the Commissioners for the various weekend concerts. The Board confirmed that there would be representation from the Commission for all of the weekend concert events.

## 3. Disability Awareness Month (Vice Chair Moore)

In Vice-Chair Moore's absence, it was recommended that the item be continued to the June 18, 2007 meeting. It was requested that Vice-Chair Moore provide the Board with an update on the tree planting options and contact with Roberta Rockwell of the Miracle League Baseball.

### **STAFF COMMUNICATIONS:**

1. Secretary Akil reiterated the date and time of the Volunteer Appreciation breakfast buffet, which is being sponsored by the City Council. The buffet will be held on Thursday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, 8:30 A.M. at the Grand Pavilion, 300 Island Drive.

#### **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:**

- 1. Chair Lord-Hausman reviewed Commissioner Longley-Cook's comments on the Transportation Element. The comments addressed the bus stop locations, ADA accessibility issues, and curb site access plans. It was also noted that the driveway with the chain across it at Lum Elementary School is not wheel chair accessible. These comments will be forwarded to Public Works Department staff responsible for addressing these concerns.
- 2. Chair Lord-Hausman acknowledged that since the Planning Board meeting is the same night as the Commission on Disability Issues meeting, she would follow up with Planning department staff for meeting minutes and Commission input.
- 3. The Board inquired as to whether or not a budget exists for minor expenditures for Board activities. Secretary Akil stated that she would check to determine if there exists a budget and get back to the Board at a later date.
- 4. The Board has selected to recognize former Chair Ed Cooney for his many years of service as Chairman. Secretary Akil will obtain a copy of a Mayoral Proclamation in order to draft one in recognition of former Chair Cooney. The Board agreed to present the proclamation to Mr. Cooney at the July 23, 2007 meeting.
- 5. Chair Lord-Hausman requested that the next Board meeting take place on the third Monday of June, instead of the fourth Monday, as she will be out of town. The Board agreed to change the next meeting date to June 18, 2007. Board Secretary Akil will contact Vice Chair Moore and Commissioners Bunker and Longley-Cook to inform them of the new meeting date.

#### 6. PAPCO:

Staff is still soliciting for a PAPCO volunteer. Chair Audrey Lord-Hausman informed the Commission that former Chair Ed Cooney is not interested in being a representative on the PAPCO Commission. She will check with Barry Bergman of the Public Works Department to determine if they have selected a person.

- 7. Commissioner Fort stated that someone tripped and fell at the pedestrian walkway sign at Willow and Santa Clara Streets. Chair Lord-Hausman stated that there are two in-pavement paddles but the intersection is wide. It was suggested that the paddles be a few inches from the line versus right on the line. Chair Lord-Hausman indicated that she would send an email to PW staff informing them of this recommendation.
- 8. Guest speaker, Ms. Robbie Krietz, Alameda, asked if the Commission participates in the Mayor's 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade or on special Olympic events. Chair Lord-Hausman replied that the Board volunteers on four Crab Cove events but suggested that Ms. Krietz please keep the Board informed of any possible future events.

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m. The next scheduled meeting is Monday, June 18, 2007 in Room 360 at City Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Board Secretary